

COUNTRY East Germany

TOPIC General Military Information

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DATE OF CONTENT April until early May 1953

25X1A DATE PREPARED 21 May 1953

REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. Prior to late April 1953, no changes occurred at the Schwerin military post. The former Deutsche Arbeitsfront (German Labor Front) (DAF) building on Hagenover Strasse was still vacant.¹ During the second half of April, source determined that Soviet ration supply depots were established near Zuesow, Kleinwarin and in the Priemerwald Forest near Guestrow. These three depots were interconnected by solid roads and standard-gauge tracks, with the tracks being constructed as far as the individual warehouses. For the first construction period of this road net, 58,000 tons of chips were allotted. No details, such as capacity, use and pinpoint location of the depots and individual warehouses could be determined. The engineer unit [redacted] of Colonel Minayev (fmu) engaged in the construction of wooden garages for 580 trucks in Priemerwald. The engineer unit [redacted] of Colonel Ponomaranko (fmu) was transferred from Goerries to Priemerwald on 25 April. A total of 4.8 million bricks for the construction of garages with strong concrete bases in Kleinwarin, Zuesow and Priemerwald were requested.² On 1 May, source learned from a record of 29 April that Colonel Trapasnikov (fmu) of tank unit [redacted] in Parchim was reassigned to an undetermined destination. He was succeeded by Colonel Tsarovoi (fmu). The unit leaves for Dranse at the end of April. A large wooden temporary warehouse with articles of clothing was destroyed by fire in the area of Dranse.³

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1. [redacted] Comment. Same source previously reported that the former DAF building would be turned over to German authorities in January 1953.

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2. [redacted] Comment. Zuesow is located northeast of Wismar and Kleinwarin about 15 km south of Wismar. It is possible that there and in Priemerwald Soviet supply depots are planned to be constructed, but it is hardly conceivable that these locations, which are situated far apart, will be interconnected by roads and railroad tracks. Rather, it is assumed that such installations are provided for inside the individual depots. It is

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believed that the unidentified engineer battalion of the IX Mts Rifle Corps which is commanded by Colonel Ponomaenko (fmu) and is confirmed in Schwerin-Goerries [REDACTED] until 25 April is assigned for construction work of the depot at Prienerwald after that time. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] No information so far indicated its assignment to an engineer unit.

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[REDACTED] Comment. [REDACTED] confirms the 60th Mecz Regt of the 13th Mecz Div in Parchim until 29 April 1953. Colonel Trapasnikov (fmu) is known as deputy regimental commander. It is also known that the regiment will transfer to the Wittstock troop training grounds in the second half of April 1953.

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